

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A manufacturing method of laminates comprising:
a first step of preparing a first laminate containing polyolefin by stacking a plurality of sheet materials, each having asperities on a surface thereof in part; and
a second step of obtaining a second laminate by having said first laminate sandwiched between a rigid body and an elastic body that are located opposite to each other or between opposing preheated elastic bodies and then by having a pressing force applied thereto together with heating said first laminate at a temperature higher than the temperature at which the polyolefin is softened,
said first laminate being maintained in a depressurized atmosphere prior to and during application of said pressing force in said second step, and
said elastic body in contact with an upper surface of said first laminate having a concave shape relative to the upper surface of the first laminate when the elastic body is pressed into contact with the first laminate.

2. (Original) The manufacturing method of laminates according to Claim 1, wherein said elastic bodies have heat resistant characteristic.

3. (Original) The manufacturing method of laminates according to Claim 1, wherein said elastic body is more thick than said first laminate.

4. (Previously presented) The manufacturing method of laminates according to

Claim 1, wherein said elastic bodies have a larger surface area than said first laminate such that edges of said elastic bodies extend beyond edges of said first laminate.

5. (Original) The manufacturing method of laminates according to Claim 1, wherein a contact area of said elastic body with said first laminate is not adhesive to said first laminate.

6. (Original) The manufacturing method of laminates according to Claim 1, wherein a flat elastic non-adhesive film is inserted between said elastic body and said first laminate.

7. (Original) The manufacturing method of laminates according to Claim 6, wherein a surface area of said non-adhesive film is made larger than a contact area with said first laminate.

8. (Original) The manufacturing method of laminates according to Claim 7, wherein said non-adhesive film has heat resistant characteristic.

9. (Original) The manufacturing method of laminates according to Claim 1, wherein a pressing force is applied to said first laminate with a side surface thereof covered with a framework in said second step.

10. (Original) The manufacturing method of laminates according to Claim 9,

wherein an inner peripheral configuration of said framework is made larger than an outer peripheral configuration of said first laminate.

11. (Original) The manufacturing method of laminates according to Claim 9, wherein said framework has elastic characteristic.

12. (Original) The manufacturing method of laminates according to Claim 9, wherein a height of said framework is equal to a thickness of said first laminate or lower.

13. (Original) The manufacturing method of laminates according to Claim 9, wherein said framework has heat resistant characteristic.

Claim 14. (Cancelled)

Claim 15. (Cancelled)

16. (Previously presented) The manufacturing method of laminates according to Claim 1, wherein said pressing force application in said second step is carried out after an atmospheric pressure around said first laminate is reduced to 80 hPa or lower.

17. (Previously presented) The manufacturing method of laminates according to Claim 1, wherein said sheet material is formed of a green sheet and an internal electrode layer.

18. (Original) The manufacturing method of laminates according to Claim 17, wherein said green sheet is formed of polyolefin and an inorganic powder.

19. (Original) The manufacturing method of laminates according to Claim 18, wherein said first laminate is heated to a temperature, at which polyolefin is softened, or higher in said second step.

20. (Currently Amended) Pressing force application equipment comprising:
a first pressing force application member with ~~an~~ a first elastic body provided inside of a first rigid body; and a second pressing force application member with ~~an~~ a second elastic body provided inside of a second rigid body, wherein said first and second pressing force application members are arranged so as to have said first and second elastic ~~body~~ bodies located opposite to each other, and also at least one of said first and second pressing force application member is made movable,

said first rigid body having a first air outlet for evacuating gases and a first elastic frame member disposed on a lower surface thereof, and said second rigid body having a second air outlet for evacuating gases and a second elastic frame member disposed on an upper surface thereof,

wherein said pressing force application equipment applies a pressing force before a pressed body is heated at the temperature higher than the softening temperature of polyolefin contained in the pressed body, and

wherein said first elastic body is in contact with an upper surface of said pressed

body and has a concave shape relative to the upper surface of said pressed body when the first elastic body is pressed into contact with the pressed body, and said second elastic body is in contact with a lower surface of said pressed body and has a concave shape relative to the lower surface of said pressed body when the second elastic body is pressed into contact with the pressed body.

Claim 21 (Cancelled).

Claim 22 (Cancelled).

23. (Currently amended) The pressing force application equipment according to Claim 20, wherein said first elastic body is held by a supporter provided on inner wall surfaces of said first rigid body and left under a floating state against said inner wall surfaces at other places.

24. (Previously presented) The manufacturing method of laminates according to Claim 1, wherein maintaining said first laminate in a depressurized atmosphere operates to remove substantially all gas from said first laminate.

25. (Currently Amended) A manufacturing method of laminates comprising:
a first step of preparing a first laminate containing an organic substance by stacking a plurality of sheet materials, each having asperities on a surface thereof in part; and

a second step of obtaining a second laminate by having said first laminate sandwiched between a rigid body and a preheated elastic body that are located opposite to each other or between opposing preheated elastic bodies and then by having a pressing force applied thereto,

said first laminate being maintained in a depressurized atmosphere prior to and during application of said pressing force in said second step,

wherein, when said pressing force is applied to said elastic body, said elastic body covers an upper surface and a side surface of said first laminate, and

wherein said elastic body is in contact with said upper surface of said first laminate and has a concave shape relative to the upper surface of the first laminate when the elastic body is pressed into contact with the first laminate.

26. (Previously presented) The manufacturing method of laminates according to Claim 25, wherein, when said pressing force is applied to said elastic body, said elastic body covers all side surfaces of said first laminate.

27. (Currently Amended) A manufacturing method of laminates comprising:
a first step of preparing a first laminate containing an organic substance by stacking a plurality of sheet materials, each having asperities on a surface thereof in part; and

a second step of obtaining a second laminate by having said first laminate sandwiched between a rigid body and a preheated elastic body that are located opposite to each other or between opposing preheated elastic bodies and then by

having a pressing force applied thereto,

said first laminate being maintained in a depressurized atmosphere prior to and during application of said pressing force in said second step,

wherein, when said pressing force is applied to said elastic body, said elastic body covers an upper surface, a lower surface and a side surface of said first laminate, and

wherein said elastic body is in contact with said upper surface of said first laminate and has a concave shape relative to the upper surface of the first laminate when the elastic body is pressed into contact with the first laminate.

28. (Previously presented) The manufacturing method of laminates according to Claim 27, wherein, when said pressing force is applied to said elastic body, said elastic body covers all side surfaces of said first laminate.

29. (Previously presented) The manufacturing method of laminates according to Claim 1, wherein said first laminate has a porosity of 30% or higher.

30. (Previously presented) The manufacturing method of laminates according to Claim 1, wherein the effective number of green sheet layers of said first laminate is 50 or more.

31. (Cancelled)

32. (New) A manufacturing method of laminates comprising:

a first step of preparing a first laminate containing polyolefin by stacking a plurality of sheet materials, each having asperities on a surface thereof in part; and

a second step of obtaining a second laminate by having said first laminate sandwiched between a rigid body and an elastic body that are located opposite to each other or between opposing preheated elastic bodies and then by having a pressing force applied thereto together with heating said first laminate at a temperature higher than the temperature at which the polyolefin is softened,

said first laminate being maintained in a depressurized atmosphere prior to and during application of said pressing force in said second step, and

said first laminate having an upper surface which fully covers the plurality of sheet materials formed beneath said upper surface such that none of the plurality of sheet materials formed beneath said upper surface are exposed via the upper surface of the first laminate.

33. (New) The manufacturing method of laminates according to Claim 1, wherein said upper surface of said first laminate fully covers the plurality of sheet materials formed beneath said upper surface such that none of the plurality of sheet materials formed beneath said upper surface are exposed via the upper surface of the first laminate.

34. (New) The manufacturing method of laminates according to claim 1, wherein said upper surface of said first laminate has a substantially rectangular shape.

35. (New) The manufacturing method of laminates according to claim 32, wherein said upper surface of said first laminate has a substantially rectangular shape.